1:Ingrams G-5 (1934 35)1936 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

619
101
438

TRIBES CONNECTED WITH THE 'AWALIQ.

Tribe.	Clan.	Places.
Al Bureik	Al Bin Bureik Al Nabāhīn	Shabwa.
Al Karab	—	The neighbourhood of Rakhan and further to the west.
Al Hammām ...	—	The desert of Nisab.

These tribes, which are not really Hadhramaut tribes but are included on account of their dependence on Shibam for a market, are practically independent though very nominally the Al Bureik and the Al Karab are under the Upper 'Aulaqi Sheikh, and the Al Hammām are more or less under the authority of the Upper 'Aulaqi Sultan.

The Al Bureik are Sheikhs, and at one time the Al Bin Bureik were masters of Shihr but now the whole of the small tribe are settled in Shabwa.

[631] The Qu'aiti has "B" agreements with the 'Awaliq generally.

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631

THE HADHRAMI YAFA'IS AND THEIR SECTIONS.

Clan.	Section.	Places.	Nos.
Al Dhubi ...	Al al Bakri	Zarqāna and Bā Bakr	25
	Bin Dāūd and Al 'Affif	Husēn	25
	Al al Hadhārim	As Sāha	20
Al Maussta	Al Qu'ata	Al 'Iqad	75
	Al 'Alī al Hāj	As Sāha	50
	Al al Hadādīn	Hadba and Al Ghalīn	20
	Al al Jahāwira	..s Sāha	20
	Al ash Sheikh 'Alī Al 'Ab bin Ahmed.	'Ardh Masrūr	60
	Al ash Sheikh 'Alī Al Salim bin 'Alī.	Huweila	40
	Bin 'Alī Jābir.	Khashāmir	80
Beni 'Ardh		Al Fardh	100
Al Rashīd ...	—	Hautat Jābir	15
Al an Nuqabī	—	Bukria	15
Al al Madīshina ...	—	Al 'Anīa	20
Al Beni Naqīb ...	—	Al 'Uqda	20
Al Ahmed ...	—	Daqīqa	35
Al Asa'd ...	—	Al Kharība	50
Al Jabri ...	—	Hasun	25
Al Bal'ala ...	—	Jidfura	50
			775

[712] [701] Haura, Al Qatn and Shibam have garrisons of Yafa'is. At the first of these places I saw a small fort at the south of the town occupied by five Yafa'i soldiers, and there are probably more. Shibam has 40 Yafa'i soldiers, and the number round Qatn and Shibam is said to be all together about 500 armed men. Those actually employed in garrisons are paid, but the other irregulars only receive pay if called up for service. The Qu'aiti has an "A" agreement with the Hadhrami Yafa'is and their sections. The Al

[1 See page 92 ante. — Analyst]

Telegrams G-5 (1934-35)1945 M342 Hadhramaut M342

the general control of the State Secretary, an Omani Arab borrowed from the Tanganyika Government. Apart from him there were eighteen other non-Hadhrami Arabs and Indians in the administration, mostly doctors, technicians and military officers.

In 1934 on the best figures available the revenue was about Rs. 630,000. For 1944-5 it was estimated at just under Rs. 15,000,000. In 1934 the amount spent on Government services was about 3,010,000 of which 2,025,000 went to Yafa'i Irregulars and slaves. In 1944-5 the expenditure was estimated at just under Rs. 16,000,000. In 1934 the then Sultan put about half the revenue in his pocket and, just before he left for India for the last time before he died, he emptied the till and left the treasurer to borrow from the merchants, so when the first check of Government cash was made on April 1, 1939, there was still a deficit of about Rs. 40,000. On April 1, 1944, there was a credit of over Rs. 14,000,000.

Up to the end of 1936 insecurity was rife all over the country. No one could travel safely without an escort from the tribe through whose territory he moved. In the settled areas many villages were at war with neighbouring villages. In some cases there were elaborate trench systems both for defence and for communication with the fields. It was estimated that the sudden death-rate in the principal part of the Wadi Hadhramaut alone was ten a month. Even the unarmed classes were not infrequently murdered. The worst area was Kathiri Territory, but there were others almost as bad in areas under Qu'aiti influence. The Qu'aiti security forces were really only effective for keeping the bedouins out of the main Qu'aiti towns. They would not have been really effective there if it had not been for humiliating agreements which the Sultan had made with the bedouins that they would not raid within short distances of the towns marked with white boundary posts. The regular forces had been reduced to ceremonial duties only: the power of the State depended on Irregular mercenaries and slaves, and the Sultan was generally at their mercy, his authority depending on being able to play the one off against the other.[1] Early in 1937 a general peace treaty was arranged for three years between all the tribes and tribal sections. To this there were nearly 1,400 signatories which in itself gives an idea of the divided state of the country. In the same year we began the reorganization of the regular forces. In 1940 the truce ran out: an extension for ten years was proclaimed and for the most part loyally adhered to, but a good deal of tribal trouble recurred and the local forces were not yet sufficient in numbers or skill to keep order everywhere. Trouble gradually lessened and in 1944 the Qu'aiti State was paying over four lakhs of rupees for armed and police forces which on the whole kept order and peace very well. Incidents during 1944 were very few.

The bedouin today has a real confidence in the Qu'aiti Government.

[1] About the last official trace of slavery disappeared in 1944 when the State slaves were freed. Many of them were enlisted in a new African Company and the old ones were pensioned off.

Telegrams G-5 (1934-35)1945 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

He is no longer apt to be shot at by Government soldiers and he brings his troubles to the Government. The provincial governors and the district heads are better men and better paid than they used to be and all new candidates have courses of instruction before appointment. There are systems of State and tribal courts which are becoming more and more effective. There is a special department of bedouin affairs which is staffed entirely by Hadhrami tribesmen; five or six years ago no Hadhrami tribesmen were employed in any positions of responsibility.

As regards social services, in 1934 there was one doctor, mainly for the Sultan though he ran a public dispensary, and medical services cost Rs. 5,500 a year: in 1944 the sum voted was Rs. 74,000 for medical and sanitary services. There was an establishment of four doctors, and a State hospital for fifty in-patients was being built in Mukalla.

In 1934 education cost Rs. 6,000 and about three hundred boys received some sort of schooling. In 1944 Rs. 1,054,000 was provided. The number of boys in primary Government schools on the coast has increased to about seventeen hundred. There were between a hundred and thirty and a hundred and forty girls in the new Mukalla girls' school, and an intermediate boarding school, assisted by the British Council and a grant from His Majesty's Government, had been started with about eighty boys. As part of the famine relief measures, children were brought down from the Hadhramaut and have now been taken over by the Qu'aiti State which bought a village outside Mukalla and is now housing three hundred boys and girls in it. A wall enclosing garden land has been built round it and the children work the garden and are apprenticed to various local trades. They are given a modest schooling and it is hoped that they will also be taught by means of a village council to run their own village.

Another State educational experiment owes its impetus mainly to the enthusiasm of the young men of Mukalla. A number of young men have gone through a course organized by the Education Department in how to teach illiterate adults to read and write. These teachers compiled a coolies' vocabulary of seven hundred words or so and when I left were about to teach coolies from the Hadhramaut, who had come seeking for work at the coast on account of the famine, how to write the language they speak, a sort of basic Arabic. There are schemes for producing a small newspaper in this simplified form of speech and for developing some public-health consciousness.

What little the State could do towards the war effort it has done. It provided a company for guard duties in Aden while the Italians were in the war. It has raised a Pioneer Company for service in the Middle East Command. It has guarded the R.A.F. aerodromes in the State and provided coastal guards. The Public Works Department has built an R.A.F. station at about a third of the cost expected. It has landed and handled a great quantity of R.A.F. stores. In addition, at the outbreak of war when the surplus balance was about Rs. 80,000, it contributed Rs. 20,000 for general war purposes, and Hadhramis at home and abroad subscribed to a

taking into consideration rations and clothing, is good money in the Hadhramaut, and is sufficient for a soldier's tobacco and personal needs and to maintain a wife and family. Unlike his British counterpart, he does not have to undergo a rigid medical examination, nor is he likely to suffer from the dentist, but if he should fall ill he is treated by the unit medical orderly or a civilian doctor, and provision is made for his admittance to the civil hospital in Mukalla if need arises.

At the end of recruit training a soldier will be sent to one of the posts in the interior, and here the discipline and character-training already undergone will be continued. Some of these posts are sited where desert tracks cross, others near disputed wells or in areas where the tribes have proved recalcitrant. Sometimes local houses are requisitioned, and as Hadhrami architecture derives from the need for security these high, small-based, mud-brick houses are not unlike forts in themselves. In other localities proper small-scale forts have been built, square in shape and enclosing a well in the courtyard, resembling the smaller Palestine police posts or Arab Legion forts. Usually built with towers at two diagonally opposite corners, they have an imposing entrance gate, storerooms and sleeping quarters below, and above two rooms and a balcony encircling the fort. In commanding position, they would fill admirably the requirements of a producer of the *Beau Geste* type of film. From their posts the H.B.L. patrol on foot, perform guard duties, and if necessary provide escorts. Life in an outpost may appear dull, but reliefs are regular, and in his spare time a soldier is wise to learn to read and write, as without these accomplishments he is debarred from promotion above the rank of corporal. Any day a row of four or five soldiers may be observed at the unusual task of laborious reading or writing under the guidance of an officer or N.C.O.

Generally the presence of soldiers in an area has a deterrent effect on any potential law-breakers or tribal raiders, and by mixing with the local Bedouin, and by reason of being themselves Bedouin, they do much to assist Government by explanation and advice. When trouble does occur, minor operations may have to be undertaken to deal with the offenders. During these infrequent periods the soldier receives his best training, and the prospect of more active duty always appeals to him. Although a natural fighter in his own type of warfare and country, the Bedouin is no match for his brother in the H.B.L., who has the advantage of superior leadership, better weapons, and a plentiful supply of ammunition. The expenditure of rounds, which do not have to be accounted for individually, is one of the soldier's greatest joys and entertainments. It may be wondered, if, on occasion, men enlisted from tribes which are hostile to each other carry this enmity with them into the force. Such is not the case, and once in the army they seem to lose their civilian opinions and prejudices and to forget past feuds. However, care is taken that soldiers of a tribe against which force is used are not employed on that task.

Militarily speaking, the Hadhrami Bedouin soldier is quick at drill, and, as practically all of them are born with a rifle in their hands, weapon training, even with light machine-guns, comes easily to them. They are not, however, such good shots as might be expected and have a universal

Tendency to fire high.

18 Ingrams G-3 (1934-36)1938 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

we first went up there they charged us two dollars for every skin of water we took and a dollar for four coconuts, which we were reduced to buying as we had no other food and were stuck for a couple of days waiting for cars from the Hadhramaut. On that first visit one very nearly shot me for trying to take his photograph, but now he is more than ready to pose. During the two nights we were waiting for cars the Ba Hasanis were a little nervous as they had murdered some one shortly before and were expecting an attack, so we had to build rough stone forts. When we had lent a hand we suggested that we should be paid for our labour as they had charged us for everything, but they did not like the idea and spent the night on sentry go droning monotonously to keep themselves awake. One good lady of the Ba Hasanis dresses as a man with dagger and all, and likes to be called Sheikh Salim. She is the only one of the women who does not veil. The habit of veiling varies a lot through the different tribes of the Hadhramaut and quite a number of them go uncovered.

When the peace was established it became possible to complete the Al Kaf road and it was opened by Sir Bernard Reilly in July last. It is now a toll road administered by a Board and half its revenue is being accumulated for capital works and improvements and half is being spent on maintenance. The maintenance expenditure is becoming very heavy as the daily buses do a lot of damage. The fees for the use of the road are designed not only to give revenue but also in conjunction with minimum fares to protect the Badawin camel traffic. Indeed goods are not allowed to be carried by road unless they are perishable, too heavy for camels, or urgent, in all of which cases the freight charged has to be higher than that which would be charged for camel transport.

It is about nine and a half to ten hours' solid driving from Shihr to Tarim, though of course one usually stops for a meal and that makes it about twelve hours. After leaving Ma'adi the road runs along the well-named Jol al Fiqra or Backboned Plateau, a ridge from which magnificent views to the sea 20 to 30 miles away and over deep wadis are obtained. After that the scenery tends to become monotonous, particularly when you have done the drive a dozen times or more, as it dodges endlessly round flat topped hills and wadi heads, and after the *'aqaba* of Ma'adi the remaining 130 miles or so are a series of levels from which you climb or descend by quite modest hills. Two hours on from Ma'adi you come to Reidat al Ma'ara, the country of the Ma'ara tribe, a collection of small scattered villages in country intersected by shallow wadis which offer some chance of cultivation. There are some wells, but the people depend very largely on *qarifs*, open water-holes built to collect the rain-water. The Ma'ara, who are friendly folk, are also distantly related to the Hamumis. They never give any trouble though there are one or two of them who are terrific litigants, and are always coming to see me in Mukalla or the Hadhramaut about cases which I have had investigated by several independent tribunals with invariably the same result. Most of these squabbles are land squabbles and that is a source of the greater part of the litigation in the Hadhramaut.

Reida is the place where one generally stops for lunch, as it is very nearly half way. The pleasantest place I think is under a tree near one of the *qarifs*,

Hadhramaut G-3 (1934-38)1938 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

hospitality in the new house during the past year, and last hot weather nothing was more delightful than to sit in the swimming pool in the evening and listen to the strains of the B.B.C. Empire Orchestra. Since then the Arabic broadcasts have started and they are extremely popular throughout the Hadhramaut, which now sets its watches by Big Ben. Bathing over, dinner would be laid on carpets by the side of the bathing pool. One rarely sits down less than twenty at meals in Seiyid Bubekr's house and very often it is forty. The average daily consumption runs into about 30 to 40 lb. of rice, three or four dozen eggs, half a dozen chickens, and one or two sheep, and several pounds of vegetables. We went up for the wedding of his daughter, and then over five thousand people were fed for three days.

Seiyun has been our principal headquarters in the wadi, and from it I have continually visited all the neighbouring places, staying at Shibam, Al Qatn, Henin, Qa'udha, and Hureidha. You never get to Hureidha without stopping for a meal at Diyar al Buqri, where the people are so hospitable that they have been known to fire on those who have attempted to pass in cars without stopping to have a meal. The Buqri are Nahd, and although they are settled they are still rather Badu. On my first visit they offered us a large house if we would but stay and rule the country, and it was then I learned that they had imported a first-class cook from Java in the hope of being able to entertain Europeans. Great as is the hospitality and kindness of all the Nahd, the meals at Diyar al Buqri are as fine and as varied as anything you could get anywhere. Their ideas even of afternoon tea are on the most lavish scale. I have had it with them three times and on each occasion they have produced cakes, honey, and halwa, several varieties of tinned fruit, British biscuits, and super-cream toffees.

Beyond Diyar al Buqri, as you enter the Wadi 'Amd, stands a little fort with a sentry for ever gazing out. It was some time before I discovered that the sentry was a dummy, a lump of clay artistically draped with a black cloth, but in recent months I notice he has fallen into disrepair. The Nahd extend down into the Wadi 'Amd almost as far as Hureidha, of which the population consists entirely of Seiyids of the Al 'Attas family and their dependants. Here, too, I have several times stayed, and there is now a landing-ground. There is no need for me to say much about Hureidha as it is here that Miss Stark, Miss Caton-Thompson and Miss Gardner have been wintering. One interesting fact about Hureidha may however be too trivial for their notice, and that is that one of the mosques has two large town clocks, one with a face 6 feet in diameter and the other 3 feet. Only the latter works, and they are of course at the top of the high minaret. But they are inside the minaret, and you have to walk up sixty or seventy steps to see the time.

Up the wadi from Hureidha is the Ja'da tribe. I have not travelled farther up the wadi than Hureidha on foot, but before I went there for peace negotiations my wife did the journey on camel. The wadi is thickly populated and has numerous small villages which at that time were nearly all at war with each other. My wife took down particulars of thirty-two major feuds going on between sections and even between houses a few yards apart. There were trench systems, similar to those at Qa'udha, leading from the houses to the fields, but owing to the disturbed conditions cultivation had suffered badly AND THERE WAS A GENERAL DESIRE FOR PEACE IN ORDER TO GET ON WITH THE WORK IN THE FIELDS.

22: Reilly G-3 (1933-41) 1941 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

663 fence round the country and then to leave it to anarchy. On the other hand, there was no wish to introduce direct British rule over a people who are tenaciously attached to their independence. Our policy is therefore to support the treaty chiefs and to lead them and their subjects to appreciate the advantages of the suppression of lawlessness and the maintenance, in collaboration with the British Government, of internal peace and security. At the same time it was laid down as a general principle that the main trade routes through the Protectorate must be kept safe, and that the Government would enforce this decision.

The medium through which this policy was to be carried into effect was a number of political officers centred on Aden, but working in the Protectorate, and I, as Governor at the time, was fortunate in the appointment by the Colonial Office of a group of young men who threw themselves wholeheartedly and devotedly into the work of gaining the confidence and friendship of the Arab tribes and their chiefs, and in promoting the policy upon which the Government had embarked.

● 712 This work would not have been possible without the collaboration of the Royal Air Force. Aden had become an Air Command in 1928, and the first action of the strengthened Air Force was the ejection of the Yemenis from Dhala, to which I have already referred. This was followed by the construction of landing-grounds. There are now between thirty and forty of these in various parts of the Protectorate, including the Hadhramaut Valley, which had until lately been almost a *terra incognita* except to a few adventurous travellers. Flights by the Royal Air Force over the Hadhramaut were followed by invitations from the local Arabs to land, and the pioneer work of two young Air Force officers, Cochrane and Rickards, led to the establishment of closer contact. The first visit of a Resident of Aden to this strange and most interesting district was paid by myself in the early part of 1933.

556 I have already referred to this remarkable valley of the Hadhramaut,
167 and readers of Miss Freya Stark's delightful and graphic descriptions of her travels in Southern Arabia will be familiar with its peculiar characteristics. Its wealthy seyyids and merchants have generally amassed their fortunes in Java or Singapore, to which countries the Hadhramis emigrate in large numbers, and in which many of them are
[186] owners of valuable house property. They do not, however, lose their
342 love for their original home in Arabia, and many of them eventually return to the Hadhramaut, and there build for themselves the luxurious

24:Meulen and Wissmann T-S (1931)1932 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

green. The eyebrows are shaven off and a finer line is painted in. The hair is shaven off all round the edge and greased stiff and pasted against the skull. All sorts of variations in the use of the above-mentioned aids to beauty are possible. To our taste the result is often more than ugly, not to say terrifying.

Never again were we received with so much friendliness and with so little prejudice by Bedouin women. On later occasions they generally ran away screaming at our approach or hurled furious invectives at us. The people of this Ḥaiqī tribe seemed to know so little about their own religion that they were not yet infected with prejudice against *Naṣrānīs*.

Close to this camp the R.A.F. from Aden have made a landing ground for forced landings. The corners and the centre are marked out by broad lines of chalk. The big aerodrome is on the coast near Fūwa, about three hours South-west of Makalla, and somewhere in the neighbourhood there is said to be a third one.

On the coral terraces grow jathropha and in the depressions aerva, a little bohar, and also incense bushes. There were swarms of young yellow grasshoppers all over the bare rocky ground. The path runs downwards towards a wādī, where fresh water from the Ghēl Bā Wazīr and salt water from the sea meet and mingle.

The village of Sheḥēr lies on the further shore and is said to have 1500 inhabitants, who live in mud huts. In a prominent position above it stands the chieftain's house, which is, at the same time, the villagers' fortress for defence against attack. A couple of rusted cannon lie on the terrace in front of the house. There are loop-holes on every floor in the thick mud walls and the window openings are small. Shēkh Elmās is to be our host: he receives us in a friendly way in his *madjlis*[1], and, at our request, is at once ready to have quarters prepared for us on the roof, but we have to wait till the women

[1] *Madjlis* (مجلس), lit.: "the place where one sits", and has come to mean: the reception-room, meeting, or company.

CHAPTER VII.

THE ENTRANCE TO BEAUTIFUL HADRAMAUT PROPER.

On the following day the first car arrived in Ḥurēḍa. Bin ᶜAwaḍ Martaᶜ of Hēnin, a wholesale merchant from Surabaya, has succeeded in finding a way hither through the region of hillocks of loam and sand. In the afternoon we depart in his car, which we fill to the utmost. Not only is it unbearably hot, but, moreover, a scorching wind appears to come up in the afternoon in these broad, sandy wādīs. Several times the car stalls in the loose sand, but our united efforts set it free again, and, seeking and twisting, we continue on our way through the lonely, baking hot desert. No one is on the road at this hour of the day; the little mud villages that we occasionally see in the distance look as if they were dead. Scanty date-palms glimmer now and then through the curtain of sand which hangs stagnant in the air.

1. DIYĀR ĀL BUQRĪ, A CENTRE OF WAR.

After about two hours we reach the mouth of Wādī ᶜAmd in the Wādī 'l-Ḳasr. The soil is firmer here, consisting, in fact, of hillocks of loam. The wādī, at this point, rather resembles a great plain, in which the driver of our car steers, keeping in sight some promontories of the far-off high rock-wall, looming up from time to time out of the mist of sand. We twist and turn continuously among the loam-hills. Bin Martaᶜ is certainly a clever driver. After a time the high, greyish-white castles of Āl Buqrī, which are situated in about the middle of the wādī, become visible through the haze. They

CHAPTER IX.

SĒWŪN, THE HEART OF HADRAMAUT PROPER.

1. PENETRATING INTO THE ĀL KATHĪR TERRITORY.

The border of the Qeᶜēṭī territory is a quarter of an hour's walk to the east of Shibām. There, high up at the edge of the mountain, is a fort and an observation post; there are also mud block-houses in the plain. Somewhat further along the mountain's ridge the white military posts of the Āl Kathīr are visible.

On the afternoon of May 24th, immediately after leaving Shibām, we cross the sandy wādī diagonally towards the northern side, where there is least vegetation, but also least warfare. The whole southern side has the name of being unsafe. But even here on the north, soldiers dog our footsteps whenever we stop to take photographs. The villages are built up against the mountain foot, and on higher points are the ruins of fortifications. Following the margin we again enter date plantations, which are, however, very thin and finally perish in the engulfing sand. Then we go on through sand-dunes overgrown with a kind of beach-grass. Close by Sēwūn we again have to cross the bed of the wādī, as this place is situated on the southern side. There is water, here and there, in the *sēl*-bed; it is, however, very bitter. The soil close to those stagnant pools is covered with a crust of white salt.

Sēwūn lies within a wide belt of magnificent palm-groves and fields of *dhura*. The water-level is only eighteen to twenty-one feet below the surface; the water has a saltish taste, but appears to be exceptionally suitable for the irrigation of the gardens. We had not so far seen such vigorous date-palms and such luxuriant, tall-growing *dhura* as in this part of the country. The hot wind has already ripened the bunches of dates, which are comfortably hidden away by this time in their

●712

Part of the outer wall and defence towers, protecting Terim.

facing p 129

24:Meulen and Wissmann T-3 (1931)1932 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

ques. One of the el-Kāfs told us that there are 200 in use and 160 falling into disrepair. My friend Sayyid Hāshim makes it 60 in use and 300 falling into disrepair; this is, doubtless, nearer to the truth.

The number of the inhabitants of Terīm is almost certainly 12000, for our host has lists of names in connection with the distributions of food made by him to the masses. Sēwūn must then have rather more, that is, between 12000 and 15000.

There are two elementary schools here with about 400 pupils, and one school for more advanced religious instruction with some 200 students.

After the visit to the castle we go to New Terīm. There a completely new suburb is being built, partly for people who are in the service of the el-Kāfs. In none of the places that we had visited up to now was there so much life and expansion as here. In Terīm a conscious and well-considered effort is being made to become, within a short time, the foremost town of Ḥaḍramaut. El-Kāf and Terīm are the names that we heard everywhere whenever new undertakings or plans were under discussion.

We pass through the new suburb till we strike the wall of the city, which ascends the slope of the mountain at this spot until it becomes unclimbable. Two forts manned by soldiers strengthen this starting point of the defence works of the town. From their high position they overlook quite half of the well-maintained and solid wall which encloses the town and the palm-groves in straight lines.

It is Thursday, the day for the distribution of food to the poor. As we return home, the street and square before our host's house are black with women, children and greybeards, awaiting the portions of rice and flour that are destined for them. The work of distribution lasts for hours. Servants hand out the portions; others check and sign long lists of names. The soldiers and Bedouins from the Qeᶜēṭī territory who accompany us gaze in dumb amazement at this lavish charitableness. Soon when they return to their country, they will

doctor, for whom Friday is a holiday. The car which follows is filled with armed Bedouins, members of the tribes through whose land we shall pass. The district of Terīm ends just outside the city. Mud defence turrets and fortifications are pointed out to us, where, up to a year ago, shooting still went on. The aspect of the villages and neglected plantations shows that prosperity has been here disturbed by warfare. Some of these villages are under the rule of Sayyid el-ʿĒderūs, others are independent, that is to say, they belong to the tribes in whose territories they are situated and are not under a *dōla* (a government), as the expression goes here.

The road runs over a sandy plain to the deep Wādī ʿAdim, which seems to be fairly well watered, to judge from the thick vegetation along its banks and from its fine groves of palms. Here lies the village of el-Mesīle, the birth-place of our learned Javanese Ḥaḍramī, Sayyid Hāshim. The village chief had received instructions from Sayyid Abū Bakr to provide a midday meal for us, so he stands ready waiting with his pots and the sheep which is to be killed. We stop just long enough to pick him up with his sheep and cooking-pots and then on we go again through a hilly, sandy region with here and there villages and plantations. The further we go the poorer become the villages; the gardens are partly dried up and half of the houses are in ruins. The male population has been decimated by intertribal warfare, and now poverty and starvation are killing the rest.

The drivers have difficulty in finding a practicable track between the sand-hills. At last we reach Ruḍēḥ, the village of Sayyid el-ʿĒderūs, where donkeys are waiting for us. The drivers are of the opinion that the cars can go on still further if we will all help by pushing from time to time. We are again obliged to go through the sandy bed of the *sēl*. Great exertion is necessary to get the cars through the loose sand, but after that it is good going over loam plains and through wādīs. Sometimes a descent or ascent has to be dug, but we are prepared for that: pickaxes and spades have been brought.

24:Meulen and Wissmann T-3 (1931)1932 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

of the route and we are free to travel in the darkness, that is to say, after sunset and before sunrise.

Some two hours after starting, we arrive at the Qeᶜēṭī frontier. Here, besides a castle named Ḥuṣn Bin Dighāl and manned by the inhabitants of the wādī, we find the first stronghold occupied by a garrison of Yāfiᶜ soldiers of the *Dōla* (*i. e.* Government); it bears the name of Bedaᶜ Qeᶜār. We pass by this lonely castle; the soldiers, who are weakened by malaria, stare inquisitively after us, crowding each other aside to get a view of us from the little windows near the roof. We have come nearer to the river again at this point, and before long our path goes through fertile date-gardens, beside and across irrigation canals full of water. It is already growing dark as we approach Ḥūte, the first village on Little's map. We had decided not to spend the nights in villages and houses, if it were at all possible to avoid it, so as to have no bother from inquisitive visitors; we let the camels kneel down for the night where the slopes of a hill began a little way beyond Ḥūte.

We had not been able to replenish our stock of food at Ṣidāra, and here also the men we send out to do so come back empty-handed. The rocky slope was unpleasant to lie on and the proximity of the river and irrigated fields makes the atmosphere very damp, which is oppressive at night. Mosquitoes, the tormentors of mankind in hot, damp countries, make their appearance here again. In the middle of the night we were startled by a hyena that was snuffling round us but ran away like a hare when some of our company awoke and got to their feet.

On the following morning, June 17th, we did not succeed in making an early start. The camels had to be generously watered; then we were told that one of them had strayed, though in reality our men were only trying to give the animals plenty of time to feed from the *rāk* bushes which grow around. Bedouins invariably do everything they can to keep their camels in the best possible condition.

24:Meulen and Wissmann T-3 (1931)1932 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

before we got our caravan on the move. A disappointment of this kind does not improve the mental atmosphere, especially before one has learnt to know one's followers. Distrust of the honesty of their promise to do all in their power, and the overwhelming desire to go quickly forward on account of the scantiness and bad quality of our food bred in us a mood of tension and exhaustion.

The mountain scenery through which we passed became gorgeous. The geological strata were clearly visible in the walls of the dry river-beds through which our path ran. Before us was a lofty chain of granite mountains like a huge wall with sharp peaks and jagged tops. It grew very warm among those bare rock-walls where we had to climb laboriously over sharp, slippery ground. To one side of the path was a brackish spring of whose water even the animals refused to drink. We mounted towards the high mountain-pass which our people called Hūta. The remains of a strongly fortified wall built of fragments of uncut stone stand in the pass. Heavy fighting took place there ten years ago when el-Qeʿēṭī sent an expedition to conquer Wādī Ḥadjr. The graves of the slain are marked by simple heaps of stones, on either side of the mountain path. After a long descent we reached the wādī again at just about the hottest time of day. Its banks here are steep and so we could not get at the enticing water or the green *rāk* bushes, but our Bedouins went in search of a place where it would be possible to descend. We had made up our minds to rest for the afternoon, not here in el-Qulēta, but further on at Nēfa. The intense desire to hurry on at all costs and to get to the end made Von Wissmann and me decide foolishly to force matters and, if need be, to walk alone to Nēfa without the caravan. The path wound on through a region of sand-hills and the heat was so great that we became uneasy over our decision. Luckily Dhēb had the magnanimity to give way and gave the order to follow us. Nor had we trusted in vain to Little's map, for Nēfa was close at hand. Near the path was a great

5:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1947) 1949 MM1 Aden
Hadhramaut MM2

and the Kurab launched an attack on the Dahm. In September the Dahm returned the compliment. In November the Sei'ar raided Qahtan (Sa'udi Arabia). These were only the major incidents of quite an eventful year on the boundaries of the Eastern Aden Protectorate. There were other raids and attacks on caravans; little could be done with funds and forces available but report that these had taken place.

Within the Qu'aiti state things were far from peaceful. By June disturbances in Wadi Hajr and Wadi Du'an had shown that the time was not yet ripe for the collection of the new date-tax and it was accordingly lifted with a noticeably beneficial effect on security. But in the same month the Manahil tribe, apparently exasperated by tactless and overbearing behaviour towards them of Qu'aiti officials, attacked and overran two Qu'aiti government posts at Urr and Som, looting all their arms, ammunition and rations. The Resident Adviser was able to negotiate the return of some of these in return for concessions. Later in the year the Manahil went back on their word to resore the seventeen rifles taken. Two other tribes, the Ba Qutmi and the Ba Rasheid, in the neighbourhood of Wadi Hajr, caused the Qu'aiti Government some concern. The threat of a light field gun induced the former to see reason in August. The difference with the Ba Rasheid however—the building of a fort which the Qu'aiti Government considered threatened the peace—remained unsettled at the end of the year. The Ba Rasheid were thought to be receiving encouragement from the Mansab of Budha, a gentleman who considers himself an autonomous ruler and has on several occasions gathered the tribes and incited them against the Qu'aiti Government.

There was one major incident in the Kathiri state, arising from the carrying of arms in Wadi Hadhramaut by members of the Ba Jari tribe, contrary to decree. This occurred in July; though warned, the Ba Jari persisted and in September a force of the Hadhrami Bedouin Legion was sent to bring them to reason. This force arrested the ringleader, took some 65 rifles and effected punishment of the tribe without any fighting taking place.

Dr. R. B. Serjeant, a member of the staff of the School of Oriental and African Studies, arrived in March to spend a year in linguistic and other research. Dr. M. K. Serjeant, his wife, was also sent by the Red Crescent Society and carried out welfare work for women and children both in Wadi Hadhramaut and in Mukalla. In March the Netherlands Minister in Jeddah visited Hadhramaut. In April the Qu'aiti Sultan arrived from India, but returned there in October. Attempts to persuade the sultanic family of Balhaf to elect a successor continued during the year and by the end showed signs of success, the lot falling upon Nasir bin Abdullah, son of the Regent murdered some years ago.

Chapter 2: Population

The population of the Western Aden Protectorate is approximately 350,000 souls, all Shari'a Arabs, with the exception of about 2,000 Jews. The population of the Eastern Aden Protectorate is estimated at approximately 300,000 souls.

6; Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-8 (1947) 1949 MM1 Aden

Hadhramaut MM21

Remittances

457 of money from the Far East—the basis of Hadramaut's economy—began to arrive to a certain extent, at least from Singapore. From Java and the Dutch possessions there, is, however, little hope as yet of any but very limited sums being released.

HOUSING

342 The fixed population are housed for the main part in mud-brick and stone dwellings, while the nomads live under camel-hair tents, straw huts, thatched-palm huts, and even under matting placed over vegetation or trees. The poorer sections live in mud-brick houses, one-storeyed stone huts and straw huts.

Chapter 9: Law and Order

JUSTICE

692 The Law Courts are of two kinds: (*a*) Shari'a Courts (which administers the Shari'a or Quranic Law), and (*b*) Common Law Courts, which handle all cases outside the jurisdiction of the Shari'a Courts.

798 In the Eastern Aden Protectorate there has been a revival of religious intolerance. A most unfortunate development in Mukalla during the year was the formation of a religious committee whose activities have been something between those of a vigilance committee and the inquisition. It selects those whom it considers have committed offences against Islam, condemns them and sentences them. The local Government carries out its sentences and there is no appeal. This being a matter of religion, the [643] Resident Adviser has under the treaty no power to interfere. Hadramaut has never been the home of religious tolerance, but it was hoped that the fires of fanaticism were dying.

GOVERNMENT GUARDS

Strength

704 The force of Government Guards operates in the Western Aden Protectorate. The most outstanding event for the Government Guards ●712 in 1947 was the transfer of the Headquarters from the Hindu garden in Sheikh Othman to the Champion Lines, Khormaksar, in the early part of the year.

The task of adapting the camp to meet the needs of this force was not completed for several months, but in its present form provides ample living and store accommodation for the approved establishment which has now been brought up to full strength.

Tribal Guards

The arrival of the Depot Officer in May has permitted the calling in of Tribal Guard units for training in drill and musketry, and up to

S. Gt. Brit. . Colonial Office G-3 (1947) 1949 MM1 Aden
Hadhramaut MM21

date the Dathina Unit, and a portion of the Amiri force, attended a course of instruction in Headquarters. It was not possible to make a start in the training of Tribal Guards until the alteration referred to above had been finished in the camp, and it is hoped to continue these courses in the future.

Posts

Detachments of Government Guards were stationed in the following districts:

Dathina: Mudia, Am Quleita, Am Khudeira.
Abyan: Jaar, Al Husn, Ba Teis.
Subeihi: Tor al Baha, Am Farsha, Am Riga.
Dhala: Safra, Dhala and Jihaf.
Beihan: Nejd al Mezar, Beihan, Asylan.
Ahwar: Ahwar and Masana.

Apart from operations against Ami Haidara in February the Government Guards were not engaged in any military action throughout the year. On several occasions it became necessary to send reinforcements to districts to meet emergencies, the most notable being the despatch of a strong force to Abyan in the summer months to protect the Agricultural Department's scheme against sabotage by followers of the Lower Yafai Sultan.

Following the murder of the Political Officer, Northern Area, a detachment of Government Guards accompanied the force sent to investigate the case and later completed a march through southern Amiri territory.

No casualties were suffered during the year.

In the Eastern Aden Protectorate, security is primarily a responsibility of the states themselves, but it is still necessary to provide additional security forces. The Hadhrami Bedouin Legion under the control of the British Agent performed their security functions with credit.

PRISONS

There is no recognised Prisons Service in the Western Aden Protectorate. Chiefs of states have their own state prisons which are supervised by the political staff.

Chapter 10: Communications

In the Western Aden Protectorate road communications remained difficult, although motor transport continued to operate to Taiz and Hodeidah.

In the Eastern Aden Protectorate in February British Overseas Airways Corporation closed the Karachi route which they had been using from Aden, via Riyan. This caused some dismay in Mukalla, where there is

G. Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 MMI Aden
Hadhramaut MM2

712

With acknowledgments to A. R. Thomas

KATHIRI FORT, GHEIL BIN YOMEIN, ADEN PROTECTORATE

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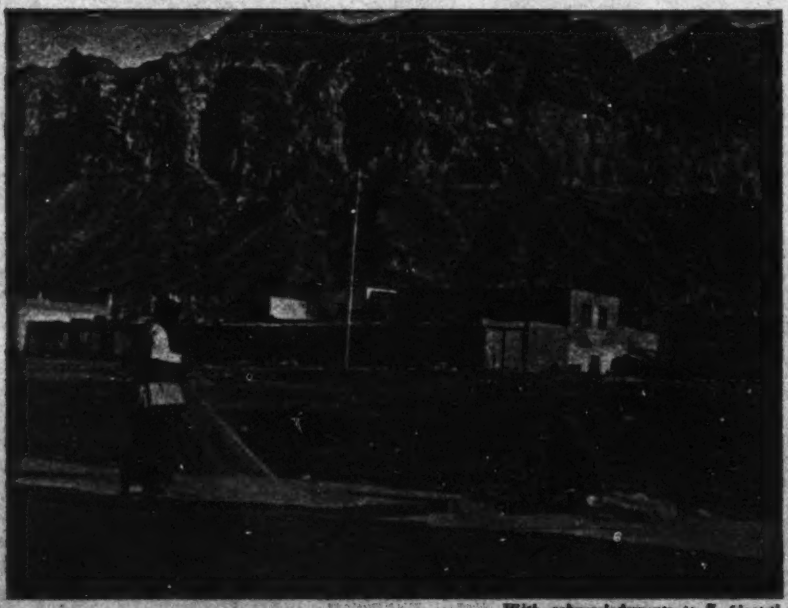

With acknowledgments to J. Gospel

FISHERMEN REPAIRING NETS BELOW THE BARREN ROCKS OF ADEN

Facing p. 40 (c)

6:Gt. Brit . Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 MM1 Aden
Hadhramawt MM2

000 camel-hair tents, straw huts, thatched-palm huts, and even under matting placed over vegetation or trees.

Chapter 9: Law and Order

JUSTICE

692 The Law Courts in the Protectorate are of two kinds (*a*) Sharia Courts, which administer the Sharia or Quranic Law and (*b*) Common Law Courts, which handle all cases outside the jurisdiction of the Sharia Courts.

Government Guards

712 701 Government Guard garrisons have been maintained at Jihaf, Dhala, El Eqla, and Safra in the territory of the Amirate, at Ahwar and Al Ugma in Lower Aulaqui country, at Ba Teis, El Husn and Ja'ar in Abyan, at Mudia, Am Khudeira and Am Quleita in Dathina, and at Al A'in, A'Sailan, El Kara', Beihan Es Suq in Beihan territory. In Subeihi country, the garrisons were withdrawn from Tor-el-Baha, Am Fursha and Am Rija, and forces of the Abdali Sultanate now control this area. In August, 1948, after operations against the Saqladi Sheikh, ruler of the territory of Shaib, a Government Guard Post was established at Awabil, capital of the Shaib States.

Tribal Guards

Progress has been made in the re-arming and training of Tribal Guard Units. Forces have now been raised in Dathina, Shaib and Audhali country in addition to existing forces in Beihan, Lower Aulaqi, Fadhli, Amiri, Mafiahi and Lower Yafa States.

The local States also employ Tribal Guards, generally recruited from within the State to garrison outposts of the country. Increased reliance on them is being shown and the States are increasing their annual contributions towards the maintenance of the Tribal Guards. The authorised strength of this force is as follows:

Abdali (Lahej Trained Forces)	379
Fadhli Tribal Guards	57
L. Yafa'i Tribal Guards	30
L. Aulaqi Tribal Guards	41
Haushabi	29
Amiri	75
Dathina	22
Beihan	40
Audhali	30
Mafiahi	25
Shaibi	31

In the Eastern Aden Protectorate security is primarily a responsibility of the States themselves, but it is still necessary to provide additional security forces. The Hadhrami Bedouin Legion continued to do well in its security role.

712 *Northern Area.* In 1950 the desert posts were completed at Minwakh, Zimakh and Al Hajr, thus linking up the northern fort system with Al Abr and Asakir, and controlling all the important water points in the area. Since the establishment of these forts there has been no raiding at all in this area, or by tribes of this area upon other tribes.

631 *Eastern Areas.* After the settlement with the Menahil in 1948 this area remained quiet, and the Mukalla Regular Army fort at Som is now accepted by the tribes of the area. Recently the Naib of Shibam met the Muqaddam of the Menahil at Elinat. This went far to heal the breach between them and Government dating from 1947 when the tribe rose and attacked Government posts.

648 *Mahra—Socotra.* The Resident Adviser paid two visits to Socotra during 1949-50, one by sea and the other by air. Among subjects discussed with the Sultan were reports of famine conditions on the Island. The Resident Adviser strongly urged the Sultan to spend more time on the mainland, and agreed to arrange a meeting later in 1951 between the Qu'aiti and the Mahra to settle a frontier dispute at Museina. The Fisheries Officer visited the Mahra coast to study fishing conditions there.

General

731 As a result of the famine in 1949, there has been a notable decrease in the numbers of camels and goats, and as a result of delayed rains in Socotra the people there have suffered a similar loss. However, 1950 was a good year for the beduin, and more young camels are to be seen load-carrying now.

691 One of the chief complaints by the Bedu has been the delay caused by magistrates when judging Bedu cases. This matter has been investigated and is being put right.

664 619 Very recently a number of chiefs from the western tribes held a meeting and put in a joint petition to Government. The three points of the petition were (*a*) a complaint against the arms-carrying ban in Wadi Du'an ; (*b*) a complaint against truck owners carrying loads which are forbidden by Government's agreement with the Bedu ; and (*c*) a request for some of their old customs to be recognised. But so firmly is the peace now established that troublesome elements who attempted to support these demands by force were overruled by the majority. The Government is taking suitable action in this matter.

648 On 25th August, 1949, Colonel J. E. H. Boustead, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., assumed the appointment of British Agent, Eastern Aden Protectorate, and Resident Adviser to the Hadhramaut States and to the Wahidi State of Balhaf.

000 A table of Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes is given on p. 6.

8:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MM1 Aden
Hadhramaut MM2

653 Their chief function is the construction and maintenance of state buildings and roads throughout the territories. In the main towns in the Qu'aiti State the department is responsible for the upkeep of the conduits bringing in water from springs outside. All air landing grounds, except Riyan, are maintained by the Public Works Department of the two States.

Chapter 10: Communications

WESTERN PROTECTORATE

494 491 Increasing use is being made of motor vehicles. These are for the most part driven along sandy beaches, dry river beds or across open desert, but in some places tracks have been improved and in a few cases new roads cut through difficult country. Nearly all roads are extremely rough and surfaces are rarely repaired.

The following routes are open for motor traffic :

	Miles
Sheikh Othman to Lahej	16
" " " Tor al Bahar	64
" " " Museimir	61
" " " Dhala	88
Aden to Zinjibar	40
Zinjibar to Ja'ar	6
" " Al Husn	16
" " Dirjaj	17
" " Sheikh Abdulla	6
" " Shuqra	30
Shuqra to Am Surra	30
" " Lodar	50
" " Mudia	68
" " Am Quleita	78
" " Mahfid	145
" " Habban (Eastern Protectorate)	195
" " Said	196
" " Nisab	253
" " Beihan al Qasab	373
" " Ahwar	76
" " Irqa (Eastern Protectorate)	124

509 712 A regular air service by Aden Airways is maintained between Aden and Mukeiras. Other landing grounds, which are used only by the Royal Air Force, are situated at Shuqra, Ahwar, Lodar, Dhala, Beihan, Qoban (Upper Aulaqi Sheikhdom) and Sah (Upper Aulaqi Sultanate).

492 Where no motors can yet penetrate, the traffic of the country is carried on camel caravans which still travel to Aden in large numbers ; in the more mountainous districts small donkeys are employed for both passengers and goods.

205 There are no post offices in the Western Protectorate.